

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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WESTPORT INSURANCE CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

vs.

THE HAMILTON WHARTON GROUP, INC.  
WALTER B. TAYLOR, Individually,

and

INTER-COMMUNITY MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL OF NEWFANE, INC., et al.,

Defendants.

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THE HAMILTON WHARTON GROUP, INC.  
WALTER B. TAYLOR, Individually,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

**ANSWER TO FIRST  
AMENDED COMPLAINT  
WITH JURY DEMAND**

Case No.: 10-CV-2188 (RMB)(THK)

vs.

IAAC, Inc., and INDEPENDENT INSURANCE  
AGENTS & BROKERS OF NEW YORK, INC.,

Third-Party Defendants.

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Defendants Inter-Community Memorial Hospital of Newfane, Inc. n/k/a Eastern Niagara Hospital Inc. and Integrated Care Systems LLC ("Defendants"), by and through their undersigned counsel, as and for their Answer to the plaintiff's First Amended Complaint for Declaratory Relief ("Complaint") herein, allege upon knowledge, information and belief as follows:

1. **DENY** the allegations set forth in paragraphs 91, 92, 101, 106, 115, 117, 118, 119 and 120 of plaintiff's Complaint.

2. **ADMIT** the allegations set forth in paragraphs 10, 63 and 85 of plaintiff's Complaint.

3. **DENY KNOWLEDGE OR INFORMATION** sufficient to form a belief with respect to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 66, 67, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 103 and 105 of plaintiff's Complaint.

4. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 1 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that plaintiff brings this action for a declaratory judgment regarding insurance coverage, state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and deny the remaining allegations set forth therein.

5. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 2 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that plaintiff brings this action for a declaratory judgment regarding insurance coverage, state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and deny the remaining allegations set forth therein.

6. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 3 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that plaintiff's allegations state a legal conclusion to which no response is required, but to the extent such response is deemed required, deny the allegations set forth in that paragraph.

7. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 4 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that plaintiff's allegations state a legal conclusion to which no response is required, but to the extent such response is deemed required, deny the allegations set forth in that paragraph.

8. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 9 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that Defendant Inter-Community Memorial Hospital of Newfane, Inc., n/k/a Eastern Niagara Hospital, Inc., is a New York corporation, but deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

9. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 62 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit upon information and belief that the Hamilton Wharton Group, Inc. ("Hamilton Wharton") and Walter B. Taylor ("Taylor") served as Program Administrator of the New York Health Care Facilities Workers' Compensation Trust (the "Trust") from some point in 1997 through some point in 2006, in addition to providing other services to that Trust, but deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth therein.

10. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 64 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth therein state conclusions of law to which no response is required, but to the extent a response is required, Defendants admit that they were members of the Trust, and that members Inter-Community Memorial Hospital of Newfane, Inc. n/k/a Eastern Niagara Hospital, Inc. and Integrated Care Systems, LLC operated a hospital and nursing home, respectively, but deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

11. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 65 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit upon information and belief that Defendants Hamilton Wharton and Taylor had duties and responsibilities to the Trust and/or its members pursuant to written agreements with the Trust, which speak for themselves, and/or duties and responsibilities which arose by operation of law, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

12. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 68 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, but to the extent such response is required, deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

13. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 69 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that Defendants have received "assessment billing package(s)" and invoices from the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, but deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

14. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 70 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that the New York State Workers' Compensation Board commenced an action in 2008 in the State of New York Supreme Court, County of Albany under Index Number L-00076-08, respectfully refer the Court to the complaint in that action, which speaks for itself, and deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

15. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 71 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

16. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 72 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph..

17. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 73 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

18. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 74 of plaintiff's Complaint, admit that Defendants filed a complaint against Hamilton Wharton and Taylor and other Defendants on June 27, 2008 which commenced an action currently pending in the State of New York Supreme Court, Niagara County under Index Number 133991-08, respectfully refer the Court to said complaint, as well as the other complaints referenced in that paragraph, for their contents, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations in that paragraph. Defendants further state that Defendants' underlying complaint, as attached to the plaintiff's Complaint, is incomplete.

19. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 75 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to documents annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

20. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 80 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

21. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 81 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

22. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 82 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

23. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 83 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

24. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 84 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

25. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 87 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to documents annexed to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

26. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 88 of plaintiff's Complaint, repeat and re-allege their responses to paragraphs 1 through 87 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

27. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 89 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and, to the extent a response to the allegations in that paragraph is required, deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

28. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 90 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

29. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 93 of plaintiff's Complaint, repeat and re-allege their responses to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 92 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

30. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 94 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to a document attached to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents, and deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

31. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 95 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and, to the extent a response to the allegations in that paragraph is required, deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

32. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 96 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and, to the extent a response to the allegations in that paragraph is required, deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

33. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 97 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that plaintiff's allegations state a legal conclusion to which no response is required, but to the extent such response is deemed required, deny the allegations set forth in that paragraph.



34. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 98 of plaintiff's Complaint, repeat and re-allege their responses to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 97 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

35. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 99 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and, to the extent a response to the allegations in that paragraph is required, deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

36. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 100 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

37. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 102 of plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants repeat and re-allege their responses to paragraphs 1 through 101 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

38. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 104 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

39. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 107 of plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants repeat and re-allege their responses to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 to 106 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

40. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 108 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

41. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 109 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document attached to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents, and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

42. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 110 of plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph state a legal conclusion to which no response is required, but to the extent such response is required, deny the allegations set forth in that paragraph.

43. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 111 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in that paragraph state a legal conclusion to which no response is required but, to the extent a response is required, deny the allegations in that paragraph.

44. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 112 of plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants repeat and re-allege their responses to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 111 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

45. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 113 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth in this paragraph refer to a document attached to the Complaint, respectfully refer the Court to said document for its contents and deny knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

46. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 114 of plaintiff's Complaint, state that the allegations set forth legal conclusions to which no response is required, further states that the allegations set forth in that paragraph refer to documents attached to the Complaint and respectfully refer the Court to said documents for their contents, and, to the extent a response to the allegations in that paragraph is required, deny the remaining allegations set forth in that paragraph.

47. With respect to the allegations set forth in paragraph 116 of plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants repeat and re-allege their responses to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 115 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

48. Defendants deny all allegations in the Complaint not hereinbefore admitted, denied or otherwise controverted.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

49. The plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

**AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

50. The plaintiff has waived its right or is estopped from denying coverage because of its own acts and omissions, and/or the acts or omissions of its agents.

**AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

51. The plaintiff's policy is ambiguous, and the ambiguities should be construed against Westport.

**AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

52. Upon information and belief, the conduct, acts, errors and omissions of Hamilton Wharton and Taylor which form the basis for the claims asserted in the Underlying Complaints are professional services insured by Westport Insurance Policy Number WED4NY006226900, attached as Exhibit 1 to plaintiff's Complaint (the "Policy"), and/or other insurance policies issued by plaintiff to Hamilton Wharton and/or Taylor.

**AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

53. Upon information and belief, the Underlying Complaints allege a failure by Hamilton Wharton and Taylor to provide certain professional services as well as ordinary and gross negligence in the provision of such services. Said allegations are not excluded as "intentional, dishonest, fraudulent, criminal, or malicious conduct" under the Policy.

**AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

54. Upon information and belief, neither Hamilton Wharton nor Taylor acted as the third-party administrator of the Trust. Upon information and belief, other entities were engaged by Hamilton Wharton and Taylor to act as the Trust's third-party administrator. Accordingly, Exclusion G of the Policy does not apply to preclude coverage.

**AS AND FOR A SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

55. Upon information and belief, the claims set forth in the Underlying Complaints seek recovery for claims or losses resulting from the conduct of Hamilton Wharton and Taylor. Because the Underlying Complaints do not seek recovery for a "claim" or "loss" resulting from a third-party insurer's financial inability to pay, insolvency, receivership, bankruptcy or liquidation, this exclusion is inapplicable.

**AS AND FOR A EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

56. Defendants hereby adopt and incorporate by reference any and all other affirmative defenses asserted or to be asserted by any of the other defendants in the within action to the extent that Defendants may share in such a defense.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendants demand a trial by jury in this action of all issues so triable.

DATED: Buffalo, New York  
January 31, 20110

ZDARSKY, SAWICKI & AGOSTINELLI LLP

/s/ David E. Gutowski

BY: Joseph E. Zdarsky, Esq.

David E. Gutowski, Esq.

*Attorneys for Defendants,*

*Inter-Community Memorial*

*Hospital of Newfane, Inc. n/k/a*

*Eastern Niagara Hospital, Inc. and*

*Integrated Care Systems, LLC*

404 Cathedral Place

298 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14202

(716) 855-3200

jzdarsky@zsa.cc

dgutowski@zsa.cc

TO: Gregg D. Weinstock, Esq.  
Garbarini & Scher, P. C.  
432 Park Avenue South  
New York, New York 10016-7790

Robert P. Conlon, Esq.  
Joyce F. Noyes, Esq.  
James W. Kienzle, Esq.  
Bradley M. Bernau, Esq.  
Walker Wilcox Matousek, LLP  
225 W. Washington Street, Suite 2400  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3418

Kevin Smith, Esq.  
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan  
180 Maiden Lane  
New York, New York 10038

Robert L. Schonfeld, Esq.  
Moritt Hock & Hamroff, LLP  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530

Shaub, Ahmuty, Citin & Spratt, LLP  
1983 Marcus Avenue  
Lake Success, New York 11042-1056

R. Scott Atwater, Esq.  
Gross, Shuman, Brizdle & Gilfillan, P. C.  
465 Main Street, Suite 600  
Buffalo, New York 14203

Robert J. Grande, Esq.  
Keidel, Weldon & Cunningham, LLP  
925 Westchester Avenue, Suite 400  
White Plains, New York 10604

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice pro hac vice in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, hereby certifies that a copy of the Answer with Jury Demand was served on the attorneys listed below Via First Class Mail on January 31 2011, at the addresses indicated below:

Gregg D. Weinstock, Esq.  
Garbarini & Scher, P. C.  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff Westport Insurance*  
432 Park Avenue South  
New York, New York 10016-7790

Robert P. Conlon, Esq.  
Joyce F. Noyes, Esq.  
James W. Kienzle, Esq.  
Bradley M. Bernau, Esq.  
Walker Wilcox Matousek, LLP  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff Westport Insurance*  
225 W. Washington Street, Suite 2400  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3418

Kevin Smith, Esq.  
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan  
*Attorneys for The Hamilton Wharton Group, Inc. and Walter B. Taylor*  
180 Maiden Lane  
New York, New York 10038

Robert L. Schonfeld, Esq.  
Moritt Hock & Hamroff, LLP  
*Attorneys for Praxis Housing Initiatives, Inc and*  
*Praxis Housing Initiatives d/b/a The Barbour Hotel*  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530

Shaub, Ahmuty, Citin & Spratt, LLP

*Attorneys for A&T Healthcare, LLC, Bezalel Nursing Home Company, Inc., Creative Lifestyles, Inc.; The Dennelisse Corporation, E.R.N.H. Corporation, Inc. d/b/a East Rockaway Progressive Care Facility s/h/a E.R.N.H. a/k/a East Rockaway Nursing Home; Elmhurst Care Center, Inc.; Highland Care Center, Inc.; Hudson Valley Home Care, Inc.; The New Brighton Manor of Long Beach Home for Adults; New South Shore Manor; Nyack Manor Nursing Home; Patchogue Nursing Center, Inc. s/h/a The Estate of Paul C. Maggio d/b/a Patchogue Nursing Center; Royal Health Care Services, Inc.; Unique People Services, Inc.; Flushing House United Presbyterian & Reformed Adult Ministries, Inc. s/h/a United Presbyterian and Reform Adult Ministries d/b/a Flushing House, and New York County Health Services Review Organization Unique*

1983 Marcus Avenue

Lake Success, New York 11042-1056

R. Scott Atwater, Esq.

Gross, Shuman, Brizdle & Gilfillan, P. C.

*Attorneys for Alternative Staffing, Inc.; B&H HealthCare Services, Inc. d/b/a Nursing Personnel; Barksdale Management Corp., Briarwood Manor, Inc.; Bronxwood Home for the Aged, Inc.; Caring Professionals, Inc.; Cedar Manor, Inc.; COHME, Inc.; Crown Nursing Home Associates, Inc.; Dentstrey Dental Services, P. C.; Desmond McManus d/b/a Bayshore Home for Adults; Telford Home Assistance, Inc. d/b/a Extended Care Health Services; Extended Nursing Personnel CHHA, Inc.; Gem Health Care Employment Agency, Inc.; Holliswood Care Center, Inc.; Interim Housing, Inc.; Meadowbrook Care Center, Inc.; Nassau-Suffolk Home Care & Aides, Inc.; Recreational Services Inc.; Union Plaza Nursing Home, Inc., Visiting Nurse Regional Health Care System, Inc.; and West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing, Inc.*

465 Main Street, Suite 600

Buffalo, New York 14203

Robert J. Grande, Esq.

Keidel, Weldon & Cunningham, LLP

*Attorneys for IAAC, Inc. and Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of New York, Inc.*

925 Westchester Avenue, Suite 400

White Plains, New York 10604



Dated: Buffalo, New York  
January 31, 2011

ZDARSKY, SAWICKI & AGOSTINELLI LLP

/s/ David E. Gutowski

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David E. Gutowski, Esq.

*Attorneys for Defendants,  
Inter-Community Memorial  
Hospital of Newfane, Inc. n/k/a  
Eastern Niagara Hospital, Inc. and  
Integrated Care Systems, LLC  
404 Cathedral Place  
298 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
(716) 855-3200  
[dgutowski@zsa.cc](mailto:dgutowski@zsa.cc)*